

## The Photo ID Requirement

These days it seems like you need a photo ID every place you go. Boarding an airplane, writing a check and applying for work are just a few activities that require a person to show ID. Voters in Indiana are also now required to show photo ID before casting their ballot at the polls on Election Day. The vast majority of voters already have at least one ID that meets these requirements. The ID must:

- Display the voter's photo
- Display the voter's name, and the name must conform with the voter registration record (Conform does not mean identical)
- Contain an expiration date and either be current or have expired after the date of the most recent General Election, November 7, 2006.
  - Including Military IDs with expiration dates of "INDEF"
- Be issued by either the State of Indiana or US government

In most cases, an Indiana driver's license, Indiana photo ID card, US Passport, or Military ID is sufficient. Though many military IDs fit the above requirements and are valid for voting purposes, VA medical cards are not valid at this time because they do not display an expiration date.

Voters who will be casting their ballot absentee-by-mail or absentee-by-traveling board are exempt from the photo ID requirement. Additionally, voters who live in a state licensed nursing facility that also acts as a polling place will be exempt from the photo ID requirement when voting in that polling place.

Exemptions to the photo ID requirement also exist for the indigent and for those with a religious objection to being photographed. Voters claiming an exemption or those who are unable or unwilling to show photo ID may cast a provisional ballot at the polls. These voters have until noon on the 10<sup>th</sup> day after the election to show the proper documentation or affirm that one of the law's exemptions applies to them.

Voters who do not already have a valid photo ID can obtain an Indiana state photo ID card free of charge from any BMV license branch that issues drivers' licenses and ID cards. Free IDs are issued year round, but the BMV is also open extended hours on Monday before Election Day from 8.30am to 8pm and on Election Day from 6am to 7pm for this purpose. For further information please visit [www.PhotoID.in.gov](http://www.PhotoID.in.gov) or call the Hoosier Voter Hotline at 866-IN-1-VOTE.